

## REMARKS:


Claims 1-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA) in view of Loshkajian (2005/0000979) and Franks (6,732,899). Claims 10-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA) in view of Loshkajian (2005/0000979) and Franks (6,732,899).

Applicant has reviewed the newly cited reference of Loshkajian which provides a "board" of candy dispensers affixed thereto by openable clips (50a, 50b, etc.). While the Loshkajian clips affix the dispensers to the board, they do not act as "temporary" fixtures only while the board is being loaded. Rather, the Loshkajian "fixtures" attach the dispensers until the dispensers are removed from the board. The Loshkajian fixtures act more like the elastic staples of applicant in that the staples of applicant maintain the item on the board until the items are removed from the board. As shown in applicant's Figs. 2 and 7 applicant's fixture 18 is placed on board 15 while the item is stapled thereto and is then removed from the board as shown in Fig. 7 so the board with the stapled item can be removed from the table. Based on the changes made to independent claims 1 and 10, applicant believes that his method is patentably distinct over the prior art references of applicant's admitted prior art and the prior art patent of Franks and the publication of Loshkajian whether such art is considered under §102 or in combination under §103.

Accordingly, applicant believes that all remaining claims are in condition for allowance and such allowance is earnestly solicited at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
Walter L. Beavers  
Attorney For Applicant  
Registration No. 26,704  
326 South Eugene Street  
Greensboro, North Carolina 27401  
Telephone: (336) 275-7601  
Facsimile: (336) 275-2009  
E-mail: wbeavers@bellsouth.net

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Mail Stop Amendment, Group Art Unit 3726, Attention: Examiner John C. Hong (9 pages including cover letter) to Fax No. (571)273-8300 on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2007.

  
Walter L. Beavers